

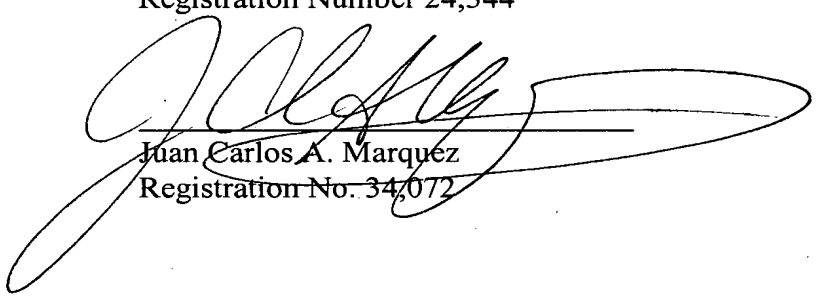
**REMARKS**

Applicant has amended claims 7 and 19 and added Claims 23-27. No new matter has been added to the application as a result of these amendments.

In view of the above amendments and Applicant's comments stated herein, Applicant respectfully requests an early and favorable action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stanley P. Fisher  
Registration Number 24,344

  
Juan Carlos A. Marquez  
Registration No. 34,072

**REED SMITH LLP**  
3110 Fairview Park Drive  
Suite 1400  
Falls Church, Virginia 22042  
(703) 641-4200  
**January 30, 2004**